

the present day newspapers find that their circulation is increased by the publication of horrors. And which of us will not confess with shame to having been assailed by an impulse to say things which he knows will unnecessarily hurt the feelings of a friend ?

KINDNESS appears to be an emotion which is derived from an impulse to fondle or embrace.

We may perhaps somewhat fancifully detect the effects of this instinct in the curious association of different creatures known as commensality or symbiosis. Instances of this are very numerous.

A species of sea anemone (*Adamsia*) attaches

itself to the shells of hermit crabs : puffins and

rabbits, prairie dogs and prairie owls amicably

share the same burrow : crackles nestle round

the nest of the osprey. There is no question of

parasitism : each animal lives its life independently

but appears to be attracted by the other's

society. In mankind the propensity to keep pets

is very strong and may not improbably have led

the way to the domestication of animals. In some

districts of India every man carries a *bulbul* about

with him. and caged birds enliven homes throughout

the East as well as Europe. Many people are

not happy without a dog. As objects of worship.

and as totems. animals. since the beginning of

history have been treated by man with an

affectionate regard which the

propensities of our  
own boys will enable us to realize.  
The natives  
of Peru have domesticated a snake .  
many a  
schoolboy will carry one within his  
waistcoat.  
and would sleep very agreeably with  
guinea pigs  
and white rats nestling against him.  
In their dealings with one another.  
men. even  
the most depraved. are often moved.  
most un-  
expectedly, by feelings of kindness. In  
the cynical